

September 2003

IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF JAPAN FOR RACEHORSES EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES

These animal health requirements apply to horses that are to be exported from the United States to Japan strictly for the purpose of participating in an international horse race. Such horses may not stay in Japan for more than 60 days (with the period of stay extending from the date of release from import quarantine to the time of export quarantine) and must leave Japan immediately after racing.

The health certificate form to be used is attached. For identification, employ a copy of an identification diagram similar to the one used for export of horses from the United States to Canada.

It must be certified on the health certificate that:

1. The United States is free of African horse sickness, horse pox, glanders, epizootic lymphangitis, and equine trypanosomiasis.
2. During the 60 days immediately prior to shipment, the racehorse was stabled on premises that had no evidence of vesicular stomatitis, equine encephalomyelitis, coital exanthema, equine infectious anemia, equine influenza, equine viral arteritis, strangles, equine rhinopneumonitis, equine paratyphoid, contagious equine metritis, equine piroplasmosis, or West Nile fever for that period, and had itself not shown clinical evidence of any of these diseases for that period.
3. The racehorse was tested as indicated within the 30 days immediately prior to shipment, with negative results:
 - a. Equine infectious anemia - by agar-gel immunodiffusion test.
 - b. Equine viral arteritis - by serum neutralization (SN) test or complement fixation (CF) test.
 - c. Equine piroplasmosis - by CF test.
 - d. Vesicular stomatitis - by SN test at a 1:32 dilution or CF test at a 1:5 dilution.
4. With respect to West Nile fever, the racehorse:
 - a. during the 1 year immediately prior to shipment, was either vaccinated twice, at an interval of 3-6 weeks, with a USDA-licensed vaccine or given a booster dose of such a vaccine,
OR
 - b. during the 60 days immediately prior to shipment, was stabled on premises that were at least 50 km from any premises which had a confirmed case of the disease (in any species) for that period.
5. During the 1 year immediately prior to shipment, the racehorse was vaccinated against equine influenza either twice, at an interval of 4-6 weeks, or once, in the case of a booster.

6. All containers, land vehicles, and aircraft used/to be used for conveyance of the racehorse have been cleaned and disinfected with disinfectants approved by U.S. Government authorities.

Any vaccinations in addition to those against West Nile fever and equine influenza must be noted on the health certificate. In addition, Veterinary Services must certify conveyance to the owner/exporter, and the owner/exporter must acknowledge receipt from Veterinary Services, of the following instructions:

1. No animals (equine or cloven-hoofed) except other fully certified racehorses participating in the stated race may be loaded together with the indicated racehorse on the aircraft used to transport the indicated racehorse to Japan.
2. No additional feed or bedding may be procured at any intermediate port of call during transportation of the racehorse to Japan.

**HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR RACEHORSES TO BE
TEMPORARILY EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES TO
JAPAN TO PARTICIPATE IN AN INTERNATIONAL HORSE RACE**

- I. Name of Race _____
- II. Name and Address of Consignor _____

- III. Name and Address of Consignee _____

- IV. Name and Address of Stabling Premises _____

- V. Airline and Flight No. _____
- VI. Description of the Horse:
- Name _____
- Breed _____ Color _____
- Identification _____
(Also refer to the accompanying diagram)
- Sex _____ Age _____ (Date of Birth: _____)

VII. Certification:

I, the undersigned veterinary officer, hereby certify with respect to the animal described above that:

A. The United States is free of African horse sickness, horse pox, glanders, epizootic lymphangitis, and equine trypanosomiasis.

B. During the 60 days immediately prior to shipment, the racehorse was stabled on premises that had no evidence of vesicular stomatitis, equine encephalomyelitis, coital exanthema, equine infectious anemia, equine influenza, equine viral arteritis, strangles, equine rhinopneumonitis, equine paratyphoid, contagious equine metritis, equine piroplasmiasis, or West Nile fever for that period, and had itself not shown clinical evidence of any of these diseases for that period.

C. Within the 30 days immediately prior to shipment, the racehorse was tested as prescribed below, with negative results:

1. Equine infectious anemia - by agar-gel immunodiffusion test

Date of test _____

2. Equine viral arteritis - by serum neutralization (SN) test OR complement
fixation (CF) test (line out the test that does not apply)

Date of test _____

3. Equine piroplasmiasis - by CF test

Date of test _____

4. Vesicular stomatitis - by SN test at a 1:32 dilution OR CF test at a 1:5 dilution
(line out the test that does not apply)

Date of test _____

D. During the 1 year immediately prior to shipment, the racehorse was vaccinated against West Nile fever on _____ and again on _____ (at least 3 weeks but not more than 6 weeks after the first vaccination) with _____, a USDA-licensed vaccine.

OR*

During the 1 year immediately prior to shipment, on _____, the racehorse received a booster dose of _____, a USDA-licensed vaccine against West Nile fever.

OR*

During the 60 days immediately prior to shipment, the horse was stabled on premises that were at least 50 km from any premises which had a confirmed case of West Nile fever (in any species) for that period.

*Line out the two entries that do not apply.

E. During the 1 year immediately prior to shipment, the racehorse was vaccinated against equine influenza on _____ and again on _____ (at least 4 weeks but not more than 6 weeks after the first vaccination) with _____, a USDA-licensed vaccine.

OR (line out the entry that does not apply)

During the 1 year immediately prior to shipment, on _____, the racehorse received a booster dose of _____, a USDA-licensed vaccine against equine influenza.

Health Certificate No. _____
(Valid only if the USDA Veterinary
Seal appears over the Certificate No.)

F. In addition to the vaccination(s) noted above, the racehorse has been vaccinated as follows:

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Name of vaccine</u>	<u>Date of vaccination</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

G. All containers, land vehicles, and aircraft used/to be used in conveyance of the racehorse have been cleaned and disinfected with disinfectants approved by the U.S. Government.

_____ Name of issuing veterinarian	_____ Signature of issuing veterinarian	_____ Date of issuance
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_____ Name of endorsing Federal veterinarian	_____ Signature of endorsing Federal veterinarian	_____ Date of endorsement
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Address of endorsing Federal veterinarian's office

Health Certificate No. _____
(Valid only if the USDA Veterinary
Seal appears over the Certificate No.)

ADDENDUM

I, the undersigned veterinary officer, hereby certify to have given the export/owner of the racehorse the following instructions:

1. No animals (equine or cloven-hoofed) except other fully certified racehorses participating in the stated race may be loaded together with the indicated racehorse on the aircraft used to transport the indicated racehorse to Japan.

2. No additional feed or bedding may be procured at any intermediate port of call during transportation of the racehorse to Japan.

Name of endorsing Federal veterinarian

Signature of endorsing Federal veterinarian

Date

Address of endorsing Federal veterinarian's office

Name of owner/export

Signature of owner/exporter

Date

Address of owner/exporter